

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for manufacturing a glass optical element having at least one concave surface, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

softening a glass molding material by heating,

molding the softened material with a first mold having a first molding surface and a second mold having a second molding surface by applying a pressure, the first molding surface comprising a first concave forming surface, the second molding surface comprising one of a convex forming surface, a planar forming surface ~~or~~ and a second concave forming surface, the second concave forming surface having a curvature radius greater than that of said first concave surface,

whereby ~~shapes of the first molding surface and the second molding surface are transferred to the material~~ the application of the pressure starts when the first mold and the second mold are at temperatures above a glass transition temperature,

cooling the ~~material~~ first mold and the second mold so that ~~a temperature~~ temperatures of the ~~material~~ first mold and the second mold ~~reaches a temperature~~ reach temperatures equal to or lower than the glass transition temperature (T_g), and

removing the cooled ~~material~~ glass from either of said first mold or said second mold,

wherein ~~in the~~ during cooling ~~step~~, a second temperature of said second mold reaches the glass transition temperature prior to a time when a first temperature of said first mold reaches the glass transition temperature.

Claim 2 (Canceled).